

## Message Text

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ACTION DOTE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

EB-08 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 SS-15 L-03

PRS-01 /049 W

-----281230 071999 /22

O R 281219Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0091

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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DEPT PASS DOT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, FR, UK, US

SUBJ: CONCORDE - CAVAILLE VISIT TO WASHINGTON MARCH 1

1. THIS MORNING'S PRESS AND WIRE SERVICES CARRY ACCOUNTS OF PROSPECTIVE DEPARTURE OF STATE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORT MARCEL CAVAILLE ON MARCH 1 TO PAY CALL ON SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION BROCK ADAMS.

2. SOME REPORTS SAY THIS IS UNDER INSTRUCTION FROM PM BARRE AND MINISTER FOURCADE.

3. CAVAILLE'S OFFICE ASSERTS THAT CAVAILLE, ACCOMPANIED BY HIS CHEF DU CABINET JEAN DIDIE BLANCHET, IS MAKING THIS TRIP AS A SORT OF COURTESY CALL ON THE NEW U.S. SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION, WITH NO PRECISE AGENDA BUT SIMPLY TO TAKE A READING ON THE STATE OF US-FRENCH INTERESTS IN THE AVIATION FIELD. IT DID SEEM LIKELY, THEY SAID, THAT CONCORDE WOULD BE MENTIONED, BUT OTHER SUBJECTS SUCH AS NORTH ATLANTIC TARIFFS, BILATERAL AGREEMENTS, STATE OF INDUSTRIAL AVIATION (AIRBUS-MERCURE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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200 PROJECT SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED) WOULD ALSO BE DISCUSSED.

4. WE WERE TOLD THAT BECAUSE OF INFORMAL NATURE OF THIS VISIT, ARRANGEMENTS HAD BEEN MADE DIRECTLY BY FRENCH EMBASSY WITH SECRETARY ADAMS OFFICE.

5. COMMENT.

(A) DESPITE ATTEMPT PORTRAY THIS AS TOUR D'HORIZON, IT IS OBVIOUS THAT CAVAILLE WILL WANT TO CONCENTRATE ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY ON CONCORDE. (SEE PARIS 5724 REPORTING INTENSE FRENCH CONCERN AT HIGHEST LEVELS.)

(B) FACT THAT CAVAILLE UP FOR REELECTION IN TOULOUSE IN TWO WEEKS MAY SUGGEST DOMESTIC POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS MAY ALSO HAVE HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH HIS MAKING THIS TRIP AT THIS TIME.

(C) SHOULD BE NOTED THAT CAVAILLE IS A JUNIOR MINISTER WHO REPORTS TO THE MINISTRE DE L'EQUIPEMENT JEAN-PIERRE FOURCADE. (LATTER SENT CONGRATULATORY LETTER TO MR. ADAMS ON HIS APPOINTMENT AS SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION WITH AN INVITATION TO VISIT FRANCE.) THUS, SECRETARY ADAMS WILL NOT BE RECEIVING HIS EXACT COUNTERPART.  
RUSH

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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